

§ 2.1231

10 CFR Ch. I (1–1–03 Edition)

HEARINGS

§ 2.1231 Hearing file; prohibition on discovery.

(a) Within thirty (30) days of the presiding officer's entry of an order granting a request for a hearing, the NRC staff shall file in the docket, present to the presiding officer, and make available to the applicant and any other party to the proceeding a hearing file. Thereafter, within ten (10) days of the date a petition for leave to intervene or a request to participate under § 2.1211(b) is granted, the NRC staff shall make the hearing file available to the petitioner or the § 2.1211(b) participant.

(1) The hearing file must be made available to the applicant and any other party or § 2.1211(b) participant to the proceeding either by—

(i) Service in accordance with § 2.1203(e); or

(ii) Making the file available at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov>.

(2) The hearing file also must be made available for public inspection and copying at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov>, and/or at the NRC Public Document Room.

(b) The hearing file will consist of the application and any amendment thereto, any NRC environmental impact statement or assessment relating to the application, and any NRC report and any correspondence between the applicant and the NRC that is relevant to the application. Hearing file documents already available at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov>, and/or at the NRC Public Document Room when the hearing request is granted may be incorporated into the hearing file at those locations by a reference indicating where at those locations the documents can be found. The presiding officer shall rule upon any issue regarding the appropriate materials for the hearing file.

(c) The NRC staff has a continuing duty to keep the hearing file up to date with respect to the materials set forth in paragraph (b) of this section and to provide those materials for the docket, the presiding officer, and the applicant or any party or § 2.1211(b) participant in a manner consistent with the way the

hearing file was made available initially under paragraph (a).

(d) A party or § 2.1211(b) participant may not seek discovery from any other party, § 2.1211(b) participant, or the NRC or its personnel, whether by document production, deposition, interrogatories, or otherwise.

[54 FR 8276, Feb. 28, 1989, as amended at 64 FR 48949, Sept. 9, 1999]

§ 2.1233 Written presentations; written questions.

(a) After publication of a notice of hearing in accordance with § 2.1205(i) and after the NRC staff has made the hearing file available in accordance with § 2.1231, the parties and § 2.1211(b) participants shall be afforded the opportunity to submit, under oath or affirmation, written presentations of their arguments and documentary data, informational material, and other supporting written evidence at the time or times and in the sequence the presiding officer establishes by appropriate order. The presiding officer also may, on his or her initiative, submit written questions to the parties to be answered in writing, under oath or affirmation, and supported by appropriate documentary data, informational material, or other written evidence.

(b) In a hearing initiated under § 2.1205(b), the initial written presentation of the applicant that is issued a notice of proposed denial or a notice of denial must describe in detail any deficiency or omission in the agency's denial or proposed denial of its application and what relief is sought with respect to each deficiency or omission.

(c) In a hearing initiated under § 2.1205(d), the initial written presentation of a party that requested a hearing or petitioned for leave to intervene must describe in detail any deficiency or omission in the license application, with references to any particular section or portion of the application considered deficient, give a detailed statement of reasons why any particular sections or portion is deficient or why an omission is material, and describe in detail what relief is sought with respect to each deficiency or omission.

(d) A party or § 2.1211(b) participant making an initial written presentation

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

§ 2.1241

under this section shall submit with its presentation or identify by reference to a generally available publication or source, such as the hearing file, all documentary data, informational material, or other written evidence upon which it relies to support or illustrate each omission or deficiency complained of. Thereafter, additional documentary data, informational material, or other written evidence may be submitted or referenced by any party, other than the NRC staff, or by any § 2.1211(b) participant in a written presentation or in response to a written question only as the presiding officer, in his or her discretion, permits.

(e) Strict rules of evidence do not apply to written submissions under this section, but the presiding officer may, on motion or on the presiding officer's own initiative, strike any portion of a written presentation or a response to a written question that is cumulative, irrelevant, immaterial, or unreliable.

[54 FR 8276, Feb. 28, 1989, as amended at 61 FR 39298, July 29, 1996]

§ 2.1235 Oral presentations; oral questions.

(a) Upon a determination that it is necessary to create an adequate record for decision, in his or her discretion the presiding officer may allow or require oral presentations by any party or § 2.1211(b) participant, including testimony by witnesses. Oral presentations are subject to any appropriate time limits the presiding officer imposes. Responsibility for the conduct of the examination of any witness rests with the presiding officer who may allow a party or § 2.1211(b) participant to propose questions for the presiding officer to pose to a witness.

(b) Oral presentations and responses to oral questioning to be relied upon as oral evidence must be given under oath or affirmation. All oral presentations or oral questioning must be stenographically reported and, except as requested pursuant to section 181 of the Act, must be public unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

(c) Strict rules of evidence do not apply to oral submissions under this section, but the presiding officer may, on motion or on the presiding officer's

own initiative, strike any portion of an oral presentation or a response to oral questioning that is cumulative, irrelevant, immaterial, or unreliable.

[54 FR 8279, Feb. 28, 1989; 54 FR 53035, Dec. 26, 1989]

§ 2.1237 Motions; burden of proof.

(a) Motions presented in the proceeding must be presented and disposed of in accordance with §§ 2.730 (a)–(g).

(b) Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, the applicant or the proponent of an order has the burden of proof.

§ 2.1239 Consideration of Commission rules and regulations in informal adjudications.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, any regulation of the Commission issued in its program for the licensing and regulation of production and utilization facilities, source material, special nuclear material, or byproduct material may not be challenged in any adjudication subject to this subpart.

(b) A party to an adjudication subject to this subpart may petition that the application of a Commission regulation specified in paragraph (a) of this section be waived or an exception made for the particular proceeding. The sole ground for a request for waiver or exception must be that special circumstances exist so that application of the regulation to the subject matter of the proceeding would not serve the purposes for which the regulation was adopted. In the absence of a prima facie showing of special circumstances, the presiding officer may not further consider the matter. If the presiding officer determines that a prima facie showing has been made, he or she shall certify directly to the Commission itself for determination the matter of whether special circumstances support a waiver or an exception and whether a waiver or an exception should be granted. The Commission's determination shall be made after any further proceeding the Commission deems appropriate.

§ 2.1241 Settlement of proceedings.

The fair and reasonable settlement of proceedings subject to this subpart is